



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT "B"

APPLICANT(S): Chiba et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/576,681

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GROUP ART UNIT: 1725

EXAMINER: Lynne R. Edmondson

INVENTION: **SHAPE OF MICRODOT MARK FORMED BY LASER BEAM AND
MICRODOT MARKING METHOD**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

Please enter the following amendments in the above-identified patent application. Also, the remarks in this Amendment respond to the Office Action mailed April 19, 2001.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3 as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A microdot mark shape which is formed by a laser beam, on a surface of an article to be marked by using a laser as a light source, wherein the microdot mark shape is made by dot marks each formed on each laser irradiated point.
the mark has a protrusion which protrudes in the center portion upward from the surface of the article to be marked, and
the length of each dot mark along the surface of the article to be marked is 1.0 to 15.0 μm .
3. (Once Amended) A method of forming a mark made by dots on the surface of an article to be marked by laser beams emitted from a pulse laser oscillator, comprising the steps of: